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Agenda item 134

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 23 December 2015

[*on the report of the Fifth Committee (A/70/648)*]

70/248. Special subjects relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017

The General Assembly,

I

International Public Sector Accounting Standards

Recalling section IV of its resolution 60/283 of 7 July 2006, section V of its resolution 63/262 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, its resolution 65/243 A and section II.B of its resolution 65/259 of 24 December 2010, section I of its resolution 66/232 B of 21 June 2012, its resolution 66/246 of 24 December 2011, section IV of its resolution 67/246 of 24 December 2012, its resolution 68/246 of 27 December 2013, section II of its resolution 68/247 A of 27 December 2013 and section I of its resolution 69/262 of 29 December 2014,

Having considered the eighth progress report of the Secretary-General on the adoption of the International Public Sector Accounting Standards by the United Nations[1] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[1]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[2]

II

Limited budgetary discretion

Recalling its resolution 60/246 of 23 December 2005, section III of its resolution 60/283, its resolution 64/243, section III of its resolution 64/260 of 29 March 2010, paragraph 115 of its resolution 66/246, section I of its resolution 66/258 of 9 April 2012 and its resolution 68/246,

[1] A/70/329.
[2] A/70/7/Add.2.

Please recycle

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[3] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[4]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[3]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[4]

III

Request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute on the work programme of the Institute for 2016–2017

Having considered the note by the Secretary-General[5] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[6]

1. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General;[5]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[6]

3. *Approves* the request for a subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research of 584,600 United States dollars (before recosting) for the biennium 2016–2017 from the regular budget of the United Nations, for which provision has already been included under section 4, Disarmament, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

IV

Subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

Recalling section I of its resolution 68/247 B of 9 April 2014 and section I of its resolution 69/274 A of 2 April 2015,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the request for a subvention to the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia[7] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[8]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[7]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[8]

3. *Reaffirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General, as an exceptional measure, to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 12.1 million dollars to supplement the

[3] A/70/396.
[4] A/70/7/Add.5.
[5] A/70/349.
[6] A/70/7/Add.9.
[7] A/70/403.
[8] A/70/7/Add.20.

voluntary financial resources of the international component of the Extraordinary Chambers for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016, and requests the Secretary-General to report on the use of commitment authority in the context of the next report;

5. *Encourages* all Member States to provide voluntary support for both the international and national components of the Extraordinary Chambers, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his intensive efforts to obtain additional voluntary contributions, including by broadening the donor base, for funding the future activities of the Extraordinary Chambers;

V

Information and communications technology in the United Nations

Recalling section II of its resolution 60/283, its resolutions 63/262, 63/269 of 7 April 2009 and 64/243, section XVII of its resolution 65/259, its resolution 66/246, section I of its resolution 67/254 A of 12 April 2013, section XV of its resolution 68/247 A and section II of its resolution 69/262,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the status of implementation of the information and communications technology strategy for the United Nations[9] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[10]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[9]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[10]

3. *Underlines* the importance of information and communications technology in meeting the growing demands of the Organization and of its role as a key enabler for business transformation initiatives at the global level and for the harmonization of services across duty stations and field missions;

4. *Also underlines* the importance of information and communications technology in strengthening oversight and accountability and in increasing the availability of accurate and timely information to support decision-making, and encourages the continuing efforts of the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Department of Management of the Secretariat in this regard;

5. *Notes* the progress achieved in implementing the elements of the information and communications technology strategy, emphasizes the importance of the full and timely implementation of the strategy across the Organization, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to provide updated information on, inter alia, its implementation, timeline, goals, benchmarks and deliverables, in order to measure its performance, and on qualitative and quantitative benefits and risk management and mitigation mechanisms, as well as on measures to reduce fragmentation;

6. *Expresses concern* at the lack of information and analysis on information and communications technology resources for peacekeeping in the report, and requests the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive assessment of information

[9] A/70/364 and Corr.1.

[10] A/70/7/Add.18.

and communications technology as requested in section II of its resolution 69/262, taking into account the comments and recommendations of the Advisory Committee, and to present an indicative, five-year, overall information and communications technology budget projection for the Secretariat in the context of the next progress report;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to foster deeper coordination and collaboration within the Organization, and emphasizes that the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with all stakeholders, keeping in mind the need to address all operational requirements, is integral to the timely and successful implementation of the information and communications technology strategy;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, as a matter of priority, to exercise proactive and strong leadership to ensure full compliance by all entities of the Secretariat with the provisions of section II of its resolution 69/262, including to report to the Chief Information Technology Officer on all issues relating to information and communications technology activities, resource management, standards, security, architecture, policies and guidance, and further requests the Secretary-General to update Member States regularly on progress made and to provide information in this regard in the next progress report;

9. *Welcomes* the update related to the implementation of the 10-point information security action plan, and underlines the need for a full application of a common security policy, with enhanced disaster recovery capabilities, across the Secretariat, including in all peacekeeping entities;

10. *Recalls* paragraph 9 of section II of its resolution 69/262 and paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to reduce the level of fragmentation of the current information and communications technology environment across the Secretariat and at all duty stations and field missions;

11. *Also recalls* paragraph 11 of section II of its resolution 69/262, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to invite the heads of United Nations entities to consider the possible harmonization and sharing of services as well as the related costs of information and communications technology, as appropriate, in particular at field locations, and to report thereon in the context of future progress reports;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the availability of appropriate in-house expertise to implement the strategy, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard;

VI

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Recalling section VII of its resolution 68/247 A and its resolution 69/113 of 10 December 2014,

Having considered the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund,[11] the report of the Secretary-General on the administrative and financial implications arising from the report of the Pension Board[12] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[13]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board[11] and the report of the Secretary-General;[12]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[13] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors on the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund for the year ended 31 December 2014;[14]

4. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report, and requests the Pension Board to ensure that all the recommendations of the Board of Auditors are implemented in full and in a timely manner;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Fund in the implementation of the integrated pension administration system, and looks forward to receiving further updates in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

6. *Notes with concern* the delays in the receipt of payments by some new beneficiaries and retirees of the Fund, stresses the need for the Pension Board to take appropriate steps to ensure that the Fund addresses the causes of such delays, and in this regard requests an update in the context of the next report of the Pension Board;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as Chair of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, to invite the heads of member organizations participating in the Fund to expedite information processing for new beneficiaries and retirees;

8. *Recalls* paragraph 42 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Fund to incorporate lessons learned, in particular regarding cost escalations and delays, for future information technology requirements;

9. *Also recalls* paragraph 37 of the report of the Advisory Committee, stresses the importance of having a comprehensive anti-fraud policy in the Fund, including in the Investment Management Division, and requests the Pension Board to report thereon in the context of the next report;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, in the context of future reports on the investments of the Fund, to provide information on the performance of his representative in discharging his or her responsibilities;

11. *Reaffirms* that, in accordance with article 19 of the regulations of the Fund, the Secretary-General serves as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund and has fiduciary responsibility for deciding upon the investment of the assets of the Fund;

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[11] A/70/325.

[12] A/C.5/70/2.

[13] A/70/7/Add.6.

[14] A/70/325, annex VI.

12. *Stresses* the need to avoid any action that would compromise the fiduciary responsibilities and long-term sustainability of the Fund;

13. *Recalls* paragraph 35 of the report of the Advisory Committee, emphasizes the importance of the Fund meeting its target annual real rate of return of 3.5 per cent over the long term, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to make all efforts to improve the Fund's investment performance and to report thereon in the context of future reports on the investments of the Fund;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as fiduciary for the investment of the assets of the Fund, to continue to diversify its investments between developed, developing and emerging markets, wherever this serves the interests of the participants and the beneficiaries of the Fund, and also requests the Secretary-General to ensure that decisions concerning the investments of the Fund in any country are implemented prudently, taking fully into account the four main criteria for investment, namely safety, profitability, liquidity and convertibility, under volatile market conditions;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 29 of its resolution 69/113, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to take all measures to ensure that the costs for non-discretionary advisory fees are reduced and to report thereon in the context of future reports;

16. *Invites* the Pension Board, in consultation with the Board of Auditors, to make arrangements that would enable the Pension Board to consider, at its annual meeting, the final financial report and audited financial statements of the Board of Auditors on the Fund;

17. *Recalls* paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee, stresses that the report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund should be submitted separately to the General Assembly, as is the case with other United Nations entities, and decides that a copy should continue to be annexed to the report of the Pension Board;

18. *Decides* to continue to consider the report of the Board of Auditors on the Fund in the context of the report of the Pension Board;

19. *Also decides* to establish the 14 additional posts set out in the table below:

Organizational unit	*Title of post*	*Number of posts*	*Category level*
Administration			
Programme of work			
Operations (New York)	Benefits Officer	1	P-3
	Benefits Assistant	2	General Service (Other level) as at 1 January 2016
	Benefits Assistant	3	General Service (Other level) as at 1 January 2017
Operations (Geneva)	Chief, Client Communication and Liaison	1	P-5
	Benefits Officer	1	P-4
	Finance Officer	1	P-3
Financial services	Cashier's Assistant	1	General Service (Other level)

Organizational unit	*Title of post*	*Number of posts*	*Category level*
Risk Management and Legal Service Section	Legal Officer (New York)	1	P-3
	Legal Assistant (Geneva)	1	General Service (Other level)
Information Management Systems Service	Data Manager	1	P-3
	Information and Communications Technology Security Officer	1	P-3
	Total	**14**	

20. *Approves* the reclassification of the posts set out in the table below:

Organizational unit	*Title of post*	*Number of posts*	*Category level*
Programme of work			
Financial services	Deputy Chief Financial Officer	1	P-4 to P-5
Risk Management and Legal Service Section	Senior Legal Officer	1	P-5 to P-4
Investments			
Office of the Representative of the Secretary-General	Senior Administrative Assistant	1	General Service (Other level) to General Service (Principal level)
Operations and Information Systems Section	Associate Accountant	1	General Service (Other level) to P-2
	Total	**4**	

21. *Recalls* paragraph 49 of the report of the Advisory Committee, notes the further explanation by the Secretary-General of the issues therein, and decides to charge 64.4 per cent of the United Nations share in the administrative and audit costs relating to the Fund to the proposed programme budget;

22. *Approves* the revised estimates of 176,550,800 dollars for the biennium 2014–2015 for the administration of the Fund;

23. *Also approves* expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 157,213,000 dollars net for the biennium 2016–2017;

24. *Further approves* the amount of 21,865,300 dollars as the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the Fund for the biennium 2016–2017, of which 14,081,300 dollars would represent the share of the regular budget and the balance of 7,784,000 dollars would represent the share of the funds and programmes;

25. *Approves* the increase of 246,000 dollars in the United Nations share of the cost of the administrative expenses of the central secretariat of the Fund under section 1, Overall policymaking, direction and coordination, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

26. *Authorizes* the Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 2016–2017 by an amount not to exceed 225,000 dollars;

27. *Recalls* paragraph 20 of its resolution 69/113, and requests the Pension Board to inform the General Assembly of the outcome of the revision of the memorandum of understanding between the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat and the Fund in the context of its next report to the Assembly;

VII

Request for a subvention to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

Recalling its resolution 58/284 of 8 April 2004, section VII of its resolution 59/276 of 23 December 2004, section II of its resolution 59/294 of 22 June 2005, section XII of its resolution 65/259, section IX of its resolution 66/247 of 24 December 2011 and section I of its resolution 67/246,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[15] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[16]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[15]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[16]

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 2,438,500 dollars to supplement the voluntary financial resources of the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2016 as a bridging financing mechanism, and requests the Secretary-General to report, during the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, on the use of the commitment authority;

4. *Affirms* the high priority accorded to the work of the Residual Special Court;

5. *Encourages* all Member States to provide voluntary support for the Residual Special Court;

VIII

Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in General Assembly resolution 69/292, entitled "Development of an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction"

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[17] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[18]

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[15] A/70/565.

[16] A/70/7/Add.30.

[17] A/70/543.

[18] A/70/7/Add.25.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[17]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[18]

3. *Approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 670,000 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund for the biennium 2016–2017;

IX

Progress in the construction of new office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, and update on the renovation of conference facilities, including Africa Hall

Recalling its resolution 56/270 of 27 March 2002, section IX of its resolution 62/238 of 22 December 2007, section I of its resolution 63/263 of 24 December 2008, its resolution 64/243, section III of its resolution 65/259, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section II of its resolution 67/246, section III of its resolution 68/247 A and section V of its resolution 69/262,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[19] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[20]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[19]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[20] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the continued efforts of the Government of Ethiopia, as the host country, in facilitating the construction of additional office facilities at the Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa;

4. *Looks forward* to receiving updated information on the outcome of the independent assessment of the project in the context of the next progress report;

5. *Reaffirms* paragraph 5 of section V of its resolution 69/262, and reiterates its request that the Secretary-General pursue his efforts to bring the matter of potential claims management to a swift conclusion and to provide an update in the next progress report;

6. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to include local knowledge and capacity throughout the implementation of the construction projects, as appropriate;

7. *Also encourages* the Secretary-General to assess the implementation of the flexible workplace strategy and to provide information in this regard in the context of the next progress report;

8. *Approves* the project scope, schedule and the maximum overall cost in the amount of 56.9 million dollars;

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[19] A/70/363 and Corr.1.

[20] A/70/7/Add.21.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the annual progress report, to include information on progress related to the implementation of the Africa Hall renovation project;

10. *Stresses* the importance of governance, effective oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved within budget;

11. *Expresses serious concern* about the delay in the recruitment of the Project Manager and the Administrative Assistant, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that all recruitment processes are completed in a timely manner;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take appropriate measures to mitigate potential risks and to monitor closely the Africa Hall renovation project in order to avoid any further delay;

13. *Emphasizes* that the Office of Central Support Services of the Department of Management of the Secretariat should be actively involved in overseeing the project to ensure the central supervision of capital projects, including risk management and alignment with lessons learned;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update Member States, through the Office of Central Support Services, on the progress of the construction projects;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring integrated and independent project assurance for the Africa Hall renovation project;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further clarify the roles and responsibilities of the internal control mechanism and the stakeholders committee, to ensure that their working arrangements are set out in clear terms, and to report thereon in the next progress report;

17. *Recalls* paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and encourages the Secretary-General to establish an advisory board that is independent and impartial, with its membership reflecting a wide geographical representation while ensuring the required expertise;

18. *Emphasizes* the need for the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat to continue to provide oversight of the construction projects at the Commission, in particular the renovation of Africa Hall, and to continue to include information on key findings in the context of the annual reports of the Office on its activities;

19. *Also emphasizes* that contingency provisions approved for construction projects serve to provide necessary safeguards against unforeseen cost overruns during project implementation, underlines that the estimation of project contingencies should be based on the identification of risks associated with the different phases of the project, and requests that the estimated contingencies be separated from the base project cost for presentation purposes only;

20. *Recalls* paragraph 52 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides that unused contingency funds may be carried over to subsequent years and reallocated as new risks emerge and older risks are retired, consistent with industry best practice, and that all remaining unused contingency funds shall be returned to Member States at the conclusion of the project;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to provide detailed information on the management of the contingency provision;

22. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to seek voluntary contributions for the Africa Hall renovation project and to report thereon to the General Assembly in future reports;

23. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to present an updated business case for the visitors' centre that is based on, among other things, clearly formulated objectives, the total cost projections for start-up and initiation and for the period thereafter, as well as costs by component, including information on the permanent exhibition analysis, estimated annual operational costs and revenue generation, direct and indirect benefits to the Organization and the public and a plan for realizing such benefits;

24. *Approves* the establishment, effective 1 July 2016, of six temporary positions (1 P-4, 3 National Professional Officer and 2 Local level) related to the dedicated project management team and one temporary position (P-3) for project support, under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

25. *Also approves* an amount of 13,438,600 dollars under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, comprising 1,253,300 dollars under section 18, Economic and social development in Africa, and 12,185,300 dollars under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, at initial rates;

26. *Further approves* the appropriation under the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017 of the amounts corresponding to the relevant sections indicated in paragraph 25 above;

27. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year construction-in-progress account for the expenditure related to the Africa Hall renovation project;

X

Strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva

Recalling part XI of its resolution 64/243, section VII of its resolution 66/247, section V of its resolution 68/247 A and sections III and VII of its resolution 69/262,

Having considered the second annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva[21] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[22]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[21]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[22] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Welcomes* the continued support of the Government of Switzerland for the construction project in Geneva;

4. *Approves* the proposed project scope, schedule and estimated cost of the strategic heritage plan in the maximum amount of 836,500,000 Swiss francs for the period from 2014 to 2023, and therefore authorizes the renovation and construction phases of the project to begin;

[21] A/70/394 and Corr.1.

[22] A/70/7/Add.8.

5. *Recalls* paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that any change that affects the scope of the strategic heritage plan project is presented for the consideration and decision of the General Assembly;

6. *Stresses* the importance of effective governance, oversight, transparency and accountability in the management of the project to ensure that the project objectives are achieved within budget;

7. *Acknowledges* the establishment of the Advisory Board, encourages it to continue its work, and requests the Secretary-General to present more detailed information on the scope, composition, technical expertise and decision-making mechanisms, as well as the functional arrangements, including the respective roles and responsibilities of the Steering Committee and the Advisory Board in the overall governance framework, in the context of the next progress report;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to include information on how the recommendations and observations of the Advisory Board are incorporated into the overall management and strategic oversight structure of the project;

9. *Emphasizes* that the Advisory Board shall be independent and impartial, with its membership reflecting a wide geographical representation while ensuring the required expertise;

10. *Also emphasizes* the importance of ensuring integrated and independent project assurance for the strategic heritage plan;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to provide detailed information on the role of the risk management firm in providing independent project assurance;

12. *Also recalls* paragraph 20 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the selection of external contractual expertise, to follow all relevant regulations and rules governing procurement procedures of the Organization and to ensure that the use of such expertise is kept under review by the project oversight and monitoring mechanisms;

13. *Acknowledges* that space optimization is one of the key objectives of the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to apply flexible workplace strategies, taking into account the observations and recommendations of the Board of Auditors and the provisions of section VII of its resolution 69/274 A, and to include detailed information on concrete steps taken in this regard in the context of the next progress report;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the application of flexible workplace strategies at the Palais des Nations takes into account the physical characteristics and the specific heritage preservation needs, as well as ongoing business transformation initiatives, in a cost-effective manner;

15. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to gather data on building occupancy utilization throughout the entire site of the Palais des Nations in order to increase space efficiencies above the 700 additional spaces already identified, including by setting optimized space utilization targets, and to report on the concrete steps taken in this regard in the context of the next progress report;

16. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to avoid budget increases through sound project management practices and to ensure that the strategic heritage plan is completed within the approved budget and the envisaged time schedule;

17. *Emphasizes* that contingency provisions approved for construction projects serve to provide necessary safeguards against unforeseen cost overruns during project implementation, underlines that the estimation of project contingencies should be based on the identification of risks associated with the different phases of the project, and requests that the estimated contingencies be separated from the base project cost for presentation purposes only;

18. *Recalls* paragraph 51 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and decides that unused contingency funds may be carried over to subsequent years and reallocated as new risks emerge and older risks are retired, consistent with industry best practice, and that all remaining unused contingency funds shall be returned to Member States at the conclusion of the project;

19. *Welcomes* the loan package offered by the Government of Switzerland, approves the financing of the project in part through a loan at a zero interest rate from the host country, and authorizes the Secretary-General to formally apply for the loan in the amount of 400 million Swiss francs;

20. *Decides* to revert to the establishment of an assessment scheme and currency of appropriation and assessment for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, and requests the Secretary-General to provide updated detailed information on these issues;

21. *Also decides* to revert to the establishment of the multi-year special account for the strategic heritage plan at the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next progress report, to include detailed information on possible measures that could be taken to avoid negative interest rates in relation to the currency holdings of the United Nations;

23. *Decides* to appropriate the additional amount of 32,634,900 dollars (equivalent to 33,091,800 Swiss francs) for 2016, under section 33, Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

24. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to establish a multi-year construction-in-progress account for the expenditure related to the strategic heritage plan for 2014–2016;

25. *Approves* the donation policy as described in the report of the Secretary-General, subject to the observations of the Advisory Committee in paragraphs 35 and 36 of its report;

26. *Reiterates* the importance of ensuring that alternative funding mechanisms are factored into the overall financing scheme in order to reduce the assessments of Member States, and requests the Secretary-General to provide detailed information in the next progress report on the next steps towards identifying additional sources of income through, among other things, the valorization at market price of land owned or occupied by the United Nations Office at Geneva, including but not limited to that currently occupied by the Club international de tennis, the Fondation de l'École internationale de Genève and the Parc des Feuillantines;

27. *Appreciates* the existing voluntary contributions received from Member States to finance the strategic heritage plan, and requests the Secretary-General to remain proactive in seeking both voluntary and in-kind contributions from Member States, as well as donations by private entities, in full compliance with all relevant rules and regulations of the Organization, in order to reduce the overall assessments on Member States;

28. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore the possibility of attracting additional United Nations entities to be accommodated at the renovated Palais des Nations and to report thereon in the next progress report;

29. *Reiterates* the provisions of paragraph 18 of section III of its resolution 69/262;

30. *Reaffirms* paragraph 19 of section III of its resolution 69/262, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the implementation of the strategic heritage plan takes into account measures to eliminate physical, communications and technical barriers to persons with disabilities, taking into account relevant resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, while ensuring compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,[23] and to report on this subject in future annual progress reports;

XI

Revised estimates resulting from the decisions contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development"

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[24] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[25]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[24]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[25]

3. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding 7,547,300 dollars in the first year of the biennium 2016–2017 for the implementation of the decisions contained in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development[26] and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;[27]

[23] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

[24] A/70/589 and Corr.1.

[25] A/70/7/Add.39.

[26] Resolution 69/313, annex.

[27] Resolution 70/1.

XII

Seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the proposal for the seismic mitigation retrofit and life-cycle replacements project at the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific premises in Bangkok[28] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[29]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[28]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee, subject to the provisions of the present resolution;[29]

3. *Notes with appreciation* the continued efforts of the Government of Thailand, as the host country, in facilitating the work of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok;

4. *Notes with concern* the continued health and safety risks related to seismic threats at the Commission as presented in the report of the Secretary-General, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to present an expeditious timeline in the context of the next report to address these concerns;

5. *Recalls* paragraphs 10, 14 and 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to present an updated proposal and costing estimates for multiphase and single-phase implementation methods, including an option to address the seismic risk on its own and an option in combination with renovation, life-cycle replacement or other works, ensuring the most cost-effective and efficient method of implementation;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the next report, to include detailed information on the effects of construction on rental income to the Commission from tenants, the application of flexible workplace strategies and the applicable seismic codes of the host country;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to provide specific information in the next report about possible measures to be taken to eliminate physical, communications or technical barriers to persons with disabilities at the Commission, while ensuring compliance with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;[23]

8. *Recalls* paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee, regrets that the host country was not approached first and at an early stage for the possible provision of swing space, and requests the Secretary-General to engage the host country on an urgent and continuous basis;

9. *Also recalls* paragraph 29 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard encourages the Secretary-General to seek voluntary contributions and to report thereon in the context of the next report;

10. *Emphasizes* the importance of ensuring the availability of appropriate in-house expertise, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of the next report;

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[28] A/70/356.

[29] A/70/7/Add.3.

11. *Also emphasizes* the importance of guidance, interaction and coordination between the Secretariat in New York, on the one hand, and the Commission in Bangkok, on the other, with clear reporting lines;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General, through the Office of Central Support Services, to take into account lessons learned and best practices from past construction and renovation projects, in particular to draw from experience and know-how acquired from other capital projects;

13. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not to exceed 400,000 dollars, also authorizes expenditure from this amount to cover expenses related to the implementation of paragraph 5 of the present section, and requests the Secretary-General to report thereon in the context of the first performance report on the programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a revised proposal to the General Assembly for its consideration at the main part of its seventy-first session;

XIII

Administrative and financial implications of the decisions and recommendations contained in the report of the International Civil Service Commission for the year 2015

Having considered the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly[30] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[31]

1. *Recalls* its resolution 70/244 of 23 December 2015;

2. *Takes note* of the statement submitted by the Secretary-General;[30]

3. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[31]

XIV

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Human Rights Council at its twenty-eighth, twenty-ninth and thirtieth sessions and twenty-third special session

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[32] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[33]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[32]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[33]

3. *Approves* the establishment of two posts (P-3) under section 24, Human rights, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, with effect from 1 January 2016;

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[30] A/C.5/70/3.

[31] A/70/7/Add.4.

[32] A/70/562.

[33] A/70/7/Add.28.

4. *Also approves* an additional appropriation in the amount of 11,040,900 dollars, comprising 3,354,600 dollars under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, 7,665,400 dollars under section 24, Human rights, 4,200 dollars under section 28, Public information, and 16,700 dollars under section 29F, Administration, Geneva, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

5. *Further approves* the amount of 62,000 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XV

International Trade Centre

Having considered the programme budget proposals for the International Trade Centre for the biennium 2016–2017 [34] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[35]

1. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[35]

2. *Decides* to approve resources in the amount of 35,697,300 dollars (the United Nations share equivalent to 50 per cent of 72,394,100 Swiss francs at the exchange rate of 1.014 Swiss francs to 1 dollar) proposed for the biennium 2016–2017 under section 13, International Trade Centre, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

XVI

Revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions adopted by the Economic and Social Council during its 2015 session (21 July 2014–23 July 2015)

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[36] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[37]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[36]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[37] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Approves* the establishment of four posts (1 D-1 and 1 P-3 under subprogramme 9, Energy, 1 P-4 under subprogramme 1, Macroeconomic policy and inclusive development, and 1 P-4 under subprogramme 2, Trade and investment) under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, and requests the Secretary-General to fill these posts subject to the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the new subprogramme 9 in 2016;

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[34] A/70/6 (Sect. 13) and A/70/6 (Sect. 13)/Add.1/Rev.1.

[35] A/70/7/Add.1.

[36] A/70/430.

[37] A/70/7/Add.23.

4. *Also approves* the establishment of four temporary posts (1 P-4, 2 P-3 and 1 General Service (Other level)) in the secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests under section 9, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, with effect from 1 January 2016;

5. *Further approves* the redeployment of one P-5, two P-4, one P-2 and four Local level posts from subprogramme 4, Environment and development, to subprogramme 9, Energy, under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, and requests the Secretary-General to fill these posts subject to the recommendation of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the new subprogramme 9 in 2016;

6. *Approves* the redeployment of non-post resources in the amount of 52,000 dollars from subprogramme 4, Environment and development, to subprogramme 9, Energy, under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, comprising 14,000 dollars for consultancies, 24,000 dollars for the ad hoc expert group, 8,000 dollars for the travel of staff and 6,000 dollars for external printing;

7. *Also approves* an appropriation amounting to 3,048,100 dollars (1,491,400 dollars arising from Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/30 of 22 July 2015 and 1,556,700 dollars arising from Council resolution 2015/33 of 22 July 2015), comprising 1,275,100 dollars under section 9, Economic and social affairs, 1,491,400 dollars under section 19, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific, and 281,600 dollars under section 29D, Office of Central Support Services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, which would represent a charge against the contingency fund;

8. *Further approves* the amount of 303,600 dollars under section 36, Staff assessment, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment;

XVII

Enterprise resource planning project, Umoja

Recalling section II of its resolution 60/283, section II of its resolution 63/262, its resolution 64/243, section II.A of its resolution 65/259, its resolution 66/246, section III of its resolution 66/263 of 21 June 2012, section III of its resolution 67/246, its resolution 68/246 and sections IV and VI of its resolution 69/274 A,

Having considered the seventh progress report of the Secretary-General on the enterprise resource planning project,[38] the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the fourth annual progress report of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the United Nations enterprise resource planning system[39] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[40]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General[38] and the note by the Secretary-General;[39]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[40] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

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[38] A/70/369 and Corr.1 and 2.

[39] A/70/158.

[40] A/70/7/Add.19.

3. *Accepts* the report of the Board of Auditors;[39]

4. *Approves* the recommendations of the Board of Auditors contained in its report;

5. *Welcomes* the progress made in the implementation of Umoja since the previous progress report, and requests the Secretary-General to make every effort to complete implementation without further delay;

6. *Regrets* the delays in the implementation of extension 2 and cluster 5 of Umoja, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to implement the project within the approved timeline and budget and to provide detailed information on the full implementation of the Umoja solution no later than at the seventy-first session of the General Assembly;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in the further roll-out plan for the implementation of Umoja, to conduct an objective assessment of the organizational readiness for business change to avoid deviations from the project's plans and cost projections, identify opportunities for further improvement and maximize the expected benefits;

8. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take proactive measures to address the remaining challenges and risks relating to the implementation of Umoja and to ensure that the project is fully deployed by December 2018, in line with the revised timeline approved by the General Assembly in section III of its resolution 67/246;

9. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report on the process and outcome of the post-implementation reviews in the next progress report;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General, for the next implementation phases of the project, to establish clear and transparent procedures and maintain a detailed accounting of indirect costs, including those related to preparatory activities, and to provide fully transparent information on those costs in the next progress report;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to absorb the indirect costs within the approved budget of each department;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make every effort to eliminate cost overruns through efficiency measures and sound project management and to avoid any further upward revision of the budget during the remaining project schedule, up to the time at which Umoja is fully deployed;

13. *Reiterates* that the successful implementation of Umoja requires the full support and commitment of senior management, as well as close and continuous engagement with key stakeholders, and calls upon the Secretary-General to ensure this through performance management and accountability mechanisms;

14. *Stresses* the importance of effective training for the successful implementation of Umoja, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to ensure that senior managers include necessary and sufficient training on Umoja for all users of the system as part of an integrated approach to training and capacity development in their work units;

15. *Notes* that insufficient progress has been made in the development of benefit realization plans, and requests the Secretary-General to accelerate the development of such plans, taking into account the relevant recommendations of the Board of Auditors, and to report thereon in the next progress report, without prejudice to established budgetary procedures and the prerogatives of the Fifth Committee, which is entrusted with responsibility for administrative and budgetary matters;

16. *Underlines* the importance of close cooperation between the Umoja and International Public Sector Accounting Standards project teams in aligning their benefit realization pillars and enhancing their mutual efforts in identifying benefits of these major transformational projects, and identifying possible synergies;

17. *Recalls* paragraphs 38 and 39 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to develop detailed transition plans for the long-term support arrangements for the Umoja solution to be provided by the Chief Information Technology Officer and for the mainstreaming of Umoja, to provide detailed information on the governance, management and operational arrangements for the deployed phases and to report thereon in the next progress report;

18. *Also recalls* paragraph 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to develop and retain in-house expertise on Umoja and to develop, as a matter of priority, a detailed action plan to ensure the transfer of knowledge from consultants to programme and project staff and that the knowledge acquired is maintained within the Organization, and to provide detailed information in the context of the next progress report;

19. *Further recalls* paragraph 45 of the report of the Advisory Committee, authorizes the Secretary-General, as an exceptional and temporary measure, to postpone the downsizing of the Umoja project team until 31 December 2016, and decides in this regard that any financial costs arising from this measure should be accommodated within the approved budget for Umoja for the biennium 2016–2017;

20. *Approves* the amount of 8,143,700 dollars, as presented in section 29A, Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Management, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017, representing the regular budget share for the Umoja project;

21. *Notes* that an amount of 31,306,700 dollars was approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 69/308 of 25 June 2015 under the support account for peacekeeping operations for the financial period from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016, of which 22,891,500 dollars was for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2015 and 8,415,200 dollars for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2016;

22. *Also notes* that requirements in the amount of 12,487,100 dollars will be funded from extrabudgetary resources in the financial period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017;

XVIII

Study on the long-term accommodation needs at United Nations Headquarters for the period from 2015 to 2034

Recalling its resolution 60/282 of 30 June 2006, section III of its resolution 67/254 A and section VII of its resolution 69/262,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[41] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[42]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[41]

[41] A/70/398.

[42] A/70/7/Add.22.

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee;[42]

3. *Recalls* paragraph 4 of section VII of its resolution 69/262;

XIX

Framework for a global service delivery model of the United Nations Secretariat

Recalling section III of its resolution 67/246, paragraph 13 of section VII of its resolution 69/262 and paragraph 19 of its resolution 69/273 of 2 April 2015,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General[43] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[44]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[43]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Committee,[44] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the initiative of the Secretary-General to establish a global service delivery model of the United Nations Secretariat;

4. *Stresses* that the development of the global service delivery model shall be limited to the provision of administrative support services, and emphasizes that functions primarily involving direct interactions with Member States, including troop-contributing countries, will continue to be located at Headquarters;

5. *Recalls* that any changes to the existing and future service delivery model must be approved by the General Assembly;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance of drawing upon the experience and knowledge of the Umoja project team, as well as the need to develop and maintain in-house capacity with regard to shared service delivery;

7. *Also emphasizes* that a detailed proposal should consist of a business case, including the establishment of an end-state vision, clear goals and objectives, as well as a detailed cost-benefit analysis containing information on qualitative and quantitative benefits;

8. *Further emphasizes* that future proposals related to the global service delivery model, including budget proposals related to qualitative and quantitative benefits from the development and implementation of the model, will be contingent on the presentation by the Secretary-General of clear benefit realization plans containing specific information on potential benefits to be achieved;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the development of a global service delivery model at the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly and to continue to gather information to support the business case for such a model, including comprehensive baseline information on the provision of services for each process;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to review his proposal for taking February 2016 as a baseline for the development of the global service delivery model

[43] A/70/323.

[44] A/70/436.

business case, taking into account the necessary stabilization period for Umoja, and to report thereon in the context of the next report;

11. *Recalls* paragraph 61 of its resolution 69/307 of 25 June 2015 and paragraph 15 of the report of the Advisory Committee, reiterates the importance of ensuring that the global service delivery model fully takes into account lessons learned and best practices of all ongoing business transformation initiatives so as to maximize benefits and avoid possible duplication and overlap, and requests the Secretary-General to provide in his detailed proposal information on the efforts to ensure such coherence, including information on the use of common infrastructure and resources;

12. *Also recalls* paragraph 32 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to include staff costs as one of the criteria in his evaluation of possible locations for administrative services;

13. *Stresses* that the report should take into account the use of all existing United Nations infrastructure, including that away from Headquarters;

14. *Recalls* paragraph 46 of the report of the Advisory Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide in the detailed report proposals for a cost-sharing formula for future requirements related to the implementation of the global service delivery model;

15. *Also recalls* paragraph 48 (*a*) of the report of the Advisory Committee, takes note of paragraphs 48 (*b*), (*c*) and (*d*) of that report, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a refined and detailed proposal on the global service delivery model to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session and to cover the requirements for consultancy fees within the allocation for section 29, Management and support services, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

XX

Estimates in respect of special political missions, good offices and other political initiatives authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council

Recalling section VI of its resolution 68/247 A, its resolutions 68/248 A and C of 27 December 2013, section II of its resolution 68/247 B, its resolution 68/280 of 30 June 2014, section IV of its resolution 69/262 and section II of its resolution 69/274 B of 25 June 2015,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General[45] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee,[46]

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General;[45]

2. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,[46] subject to the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Affirms its commitment* to consider the review of the arrangement on the funding and backstopping of the special political missions and recommendations of the Advisory Committee with a view to making a decision, without prejudging the outcome, at the first resumed part of the seventieth session of the General Assembly;

[45] A/70/348 and Add.1–7 and Add.7/Corr.1.

[46] A/70/7/Add.10–17.

4. *Recognizes* the importance of promoting cooperation among United Nations missions in order to increase their effectiveness and efficiency, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts in this regard, without prejudice to the unique mandate of and the approved budget for each mission;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present future budget proposals for the special political missions no later than the last week of October;

6. *Encourages* the Advisory Committee to consider the presentation of a single report, as appropriate, on the estimates in respect of special political missions to facilitate easy reference by Member States;

7. *Recalls* paragraph 44 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[47] and expresses its support for the nationalization of positions in special political missions and the building of local capacity, where appropriate;

8. *Underlines* that the use of external consultants should be kept to a minimum and that the Organization should build and use its in-house capacity to perform core activities or to fulfil functions that are recurrent over the long term;

9. *Expresses concern* about the growth in the number of senior-level positions in special political missions;

10. *Recalls* section II of its resolution 35/217 of 17 December 1980, and requests the Secretary-General to observe the established procedures for the creation of extrabudgetary positions;

11. *Also recalls* paragraph 17 of section V of its resolution 67/254 A, and requests the Secretary-General, in the context of the next budget submission, to provide further clarification on the criteria utilized for the use of private armed security services, as well as details on the administrative and financial arrangements for such services;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to take all appropriate measures to ensure that, when using security and protection services from private security companies, the selected companies operate in accordance with the national legislation of the host country and the Charter of the United Nations and fully abide by the relevant principles and rules of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law;

13. *Expresses concern* at the lack of coherent policy related to the holding of vehicles by the special political missions at established United Nations duty stations, as well as the lack of criteria for the stocking and replacement of spare parts, and requests the Secretary-General to develop such policy and submit it at the main part of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly;

14. *Notes* the decision to locate the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria in Geneva, and decides that related costs arising from this relocation shall be accommodated within the approved resources of the Office;

15. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[48] expresses concern that the Secretary-General recruited a Special Assistant (P-4) and signed a memorandum of understanding for the rental of an office in Brussels prior to approval

[47] A/70/7/Add.10.

[48] A/70/7/Add.11.

by the General Assembly, and decides that any costs related to these actions shall be accommodated within the approved resources of the Office of the Special Envoy;

16. *Takes note* of paragraph 11 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[49] and decides to reclassify the position of Principal Political Affairs Officer (D-1) in the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen as Director (D-2);

17. *Recalls* paragraph 12 of section IV of its resolution 69/262, notes the ongoing review of the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to consider the grading of the Special Envoy and to report thereon to the General Assembly at the main part of the seventy-first session;

18. *Takes note* of paragraph 35 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[48]

19. *Also takes note* of paragraph 17 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[48] and decides to establish a position of Political Affairs/Liaison Officer (P-3), to be based in Kinshasa, for the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to notify Member States when opportunities arise for individuals to be considered for inclusion on the rosters of the sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels authorized by the General Assembly and/or Security Council, and that the recruitment process be conducted in accordance with relevant rules and regulations of the United Nations;

21. *Notes* that, upon the day of implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) of 20 July 2015, the provisions of Council resolution 1929 (2010) of 9 June 2010, including with regard to the Panel of Experts on the Islamic Republic of Iran, will be terminated and all related resources approved under that resolution for the Panel will be adjusted accordingly;

22. *Decides* to reduce the allocations for computing devices for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia and the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa by 10 per cent;

23. *Emphasizes* that any request for staffing resources to enable the United Nations Support Office in Somalia to carry out its mandate of providing administrative, technical and logistical support to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia should be included in the budget proposal for the Office and not that of the Mission;

24. *Recalls* paragraph 19 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[50] and approves the 14 new positions in the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, which include two positions in the mission support component (one Finance Assistant (Local level) in the Finance and Budget Unit and one Travel Assistant (Local level) in the Human Resources Unit);

25. *Decides* to reduce the allocation for official travel for the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa by 5 per cent;

26. *Also decides* to establish the position of Senior Adviser at the Assistant Secretary-General level in the United Nations Support Mission in Libya and to adjust the related non-post resources accordingly;

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[49] A/70/7/Add.16.

[50] A/70/7/Add.13.

27. *Recalls* paragraph 6 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[51] and welcomes the improved performance information for 2015 set out in table 1 of the report of the Secretary-General relating to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan;[52]

28. *Takes note* of paragraph 30 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[51]

29. *Recalls* paragraph 36 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[51] and decides to maintain the provision for official travel at 1,780,800 dollars for 2016;

30. *Also recalls* paragraph 39 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[51] and stresses that the cost-sharing arrangement for the resident coordinator system is under review by the General Assembly;

31. *Further recalls* paragraph 18 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[53] and decides to abolish six Local level posts in the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq;

32. *Takes note* of paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee;[53]

33. *Recalls* paragraph 58 of the report of the Advisory Committee,[47] notes with concern the lack of clarity with regard to the roles of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq support offices in Kuwait and the Kuwait Joint Support Office, and requests the Secretary-General to undertake a review of the structures, functions and capacity of the offices in order to ensure that they better serve the functions of both missions and to report thereon in the context of the next budget submission;

34. *Approves* the budgets in the amount of 567,252,400 dollars for the 36 special political missions authorized by the General Assembly and/or the Security Council;

35. *Also approves* a charge of 567,252,400 dollars against the provision for special political missions proposed under section 3, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2016–2017;

XXI

Gross jointly financed budget of the Joint Inspection Unit

Approves the gross budget for the Joint Inspection Unit for the biennium 2016–2017 in the amount of 13,000,200 dollars;

XXII

Gross jointly financed budget of the International Civil Service Commission

Approves the gross budget for the International Civil Service Commission for the biennium 2016–2017 in the amount of 18,225,600 dollars;

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[51] A/70/7/Add.14.

[52] A/70/348/Add.4.

[53] A/70/7/Add.15.

XXIII

Gross jointly financed budget of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

Notes the gross budget for the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for the biennium 2016–2017 in the amount of 6,183,800 dollars;

XXIV

Gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security

Approves the gross jointly financed budget of the Department of Safety and Security of the Secretariat for the biennium 2016–2017 in the amount of 263,409,100 dollars, broken down as follows:

(*a*) Field Security Operations: 237,454,000 dollars;

(*b*) Security and Safety Services at the United Nations Office at Vienna: 25,955,100 dollars;

XXV

Effects of changes in rates of exchange and inflation

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates resulting from changes in rates of exchange and inflation[54] and the related report of the Advisory Committee,[55]

Takes note of the revised estimates arising from recosting owing to changes in the rates of exchange and inflation;

XXVI

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 24,007,067 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

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[54] A/70/603.

[55] A/70/7/Add.35.